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Letter dated 11 January 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Angola to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of the Amnesty Law of the Republic of Angola with the request that it be circulated as a document of the Security Council (see annex).

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Annex to the letter dated 11 January 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Angola to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Article 1

1. All crimes committed against state security within the context of the Angolan armed conflict until the effective date of this Amnesty Law are amnestied. For amnesty to be granted, the perpetrators of the crimes must have presented themselves or voluntarily present themselves to Angolan authorities within 90 days of the effective date of the law. Additionally, the perpetrators must accept social reintegration into the country.

2. The provisions of Article 1.1 above apply equally to cases in which the perpetrators of crimes have been captured and, within 60 days of the law entering into effect, declare to Angolan authorities their acceptance to being reintegrated into Angolan society.

3. Military crimes committed up to the effective date of the law are also amnestied. Exceptions to this provision are serious intentional crimes which result in loss of life. (Articles 18.3 and 19.3 of Law 4/94, dated 28 January 1994, refer.)

4. Perpetrators of crimes of desertion amnestied under the terms of Article 1.3 above have until 60 days following the effective date of this law to present themselves to competent authorities.

5. All common crimes punishable by correctional sentences, as well as contraventions committed up to the effective date of this law, shall be amnestied.

6. Crimes against honesty committed up to the effective date of this law and punishable under the terms of Article 55.1 of the Penal Code are amnestied under the condition that the victim of the crime grants pardon.

Article 2

1. Sentences already imposed and those that might be applied to cases not covered under Article 1 above may benefit from pardon under the following terms:

   (a) The one half pardon, dealing with sentences imposed in accordance with Article 55.5 of the Penal Code, and the one quarter pardon, in cases of sentences foreseen under Article 55, subsections 1-4 of the Penal Code;

   (b) The benefit of pardon is granted under the specific condition that the beneficiary not commit any serious intentional crime punishable by incarceration for more than one year for a period of three years from the date that the fulfilment of the sentence is terminated, or during the period of the sentence itself.

Article 3

The present amnesty does not pertain to civil responsibility arising from crimes referred to in the law. The period for presenting a plea of compensation for losses and damages before a competent court shall begin on the effective date of the Amnesty Law.

Article 4

Doubts and omissions resulting from interpretation and application of the Amnesty law are to be resolved by the National Assembly.

Article 5

The Amnesty law becomes effective on the date of its publication.

Viewed and approved by the National Assembly in Luanda, 29 November 2000.

President of the National Assembly
Roberto António Víctor Francisco de Almeida

Hereby published.

President of the Republic
José Eduardo dos Santos